GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2724
ANSWERED ON:31.08.2007
RESERVATION FOR WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT AND STATE LEGISLATURES
Deshmukh Shri Subhash Sureshchandra

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is taking any action to enact law to provide reservation for women in Parliament and State Legislatures;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which bill in this regard is likely to be introduced?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY)

(a) to (c): With the objective of evolving a consensus on Women Reservation Bill, a meeting was called by the Chairperson of United Progressive Alliance (UPA) on 22.8.2005 in which the constituents of UPA and Left Parties participated and subsequently the Hon'ble Prime Minister held a meeting with the Leaders of National Democratic Alliance (NDA) and other Leaders on 24th August, 2005. However, there was no consensus on the provisions of the Bill in both the above meetings. The main objection to the concept of reservation for women in Lok Sabha appears to arise from the rotational phenomenon which would break the link between the Member of Parliament and his/her constituency. These apprehensions are required to be removed before the Government could bring a new Bill in Parliament.